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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/988,939	DAVIS ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jason E. Mattis	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--
 All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment After-Final filed 1/16/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-6, 8, 10, 11, 13-23, and 25-28 renumbered as claims 1-18, 20, 21, 19, and 22 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
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DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the Amendment After-Final filed 1/16/07. Claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 12, and 24 have been cancelled. Claims 3-6, 8, 10, 11, 13-23, and 25-28 are currently pending in the application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Richard Johnson on 3/16/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

In line 6 of claim 27, a ":" (colon) has been added directly after the word "comprising", such that line 6 of claim 27 now reads as follows:

"first information, the entry comprising: a location in the"

In line 8 of claim 27, the word **"and"** has been deleted and has been replaced with a **";"** (semicolon), such that line 8 of claim 27 now reads as follows:

"associated with the packet; a match engine index;"

After line 8 and before line 9 of claim 27, the phrase **"a context memory base address; and either a location in the packet of a set of label bits or an indication that there are no label bits;"** has been added, such that lines 5-9 now read as follows:

"means for retrieving an entry corresponding to the first information, the entry comprising:

a location in the in the packet of one or more protocol bits specifying a protocol associated with the packet;

a match engine index;

a context memory base address; and

either a location in the packet of a set of label bits or an indication that there are no label bits;"

In line 15 of claim 27, the **","** (comma) has been deleted, such that line 15 of claim 27 now reads as follows:

"retrieve an entry from an external context memory and means"

In line 16 of claim 27, the phrase **"by combining the context memory base address and the label bits, if present, to create an index into the external context**

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memory" has been inserted between the word "**memory**" and the "," (comma), such that line 16 of claim 27 now reads as follows:

"for retrieving an entry from the external context memory **by combining the context memory base address and the label bits, if present, to create an index into the external context memory,**"

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 3-6, 8, 10, 11, 13-23, and 25-28 are allowed.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason E. Mattis whose telephone number is (571) 272-3154. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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HOY D. VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600